SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION ON WITNESS:

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The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) appears before the United States House Committee on Homeland Security to provide testimony at the hearing held on September 20, 2007 on "Protecting the Protectors: 1st Responder Health Issues in the Wake of Catastrophic Events" regarding response actions taken in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to protect public health, safety, and welfare, and the environment, with emphasis on measures taken to protect emergency responders and affected public.

The testimony briefly describes the devastation caused by these hurricanes and provides a summary of the response actions taken by the LDEQ working in coordination with its federal, state, and local government partners to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, and the environment.